West Thurrock Academy

Newsletter No 1 - 11th September 2026

Attendance League Table: 26 - 27 Academic Year

Pos	Class	%
1st	Leopard	100
2nd	Ocelot	97.9
3rd	Cougar	97.9
4th	Puma	97.8
5th	Panther	97.5
6th	Jaguar	96.7
7th	Marozi	95.4
8th	Bobcat	94.3
9th	Lynx	93.5
10th	Lion	87.7
11th	Liger	86.7
12th	Tigon	84.7

Upcoming Holidays

Thursday 22nd October 2026 - Sunday 1st November 2026

INSET Day - School closed

Friday 18th December 2026

Last day of school - Friday 17th July 2026 - (2pm Finish)

September 2026

15th- International Day of Democracy

16th - NSPCC Assemblies

17th – Year 2 Chalk Mural

18th – Year 5 Wellbeing Day

25th – Flu Vaccinations

29th - Nursery – Teddy Bears Picnic Trip

29th – NSPCC Workshops (Year 2,5,6)

October 2026

1st – Black History Month

1st – Year 2 Forest School

1st – National Poetry Day

5th – Year 4 Dress Up

6th – Year 4 - Science Museum Trip

7th – Cheetah and Caracal - Harlow Town Park Trip

8th- Year 3 Colchester Zoo Trip

13th – Year 5 Sharing Assembly

15th – Year 3 Slime Making

19th – Rock Kidz Concert

20th- Year 1 Weald Park Trip

LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 14TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Monday	Cheese & Ham Pizza served with Rainbow Coleslaw & Cucumber Sticks	Cheese & Tomato Pizza served with Rainbow Coleslaw & Cucumber Sticks	Jacket Potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Cherry Cookies
Tuesday	Barbecue Chicken Mac 'n' Cheese served with Vegetable Medley	Barbecue Chickpeas Mac 'n' Cheese served with Vegetable Medley	Jacket Potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt
Wednesday	Homemade Pork Meatballs in a Sweet Tomato Sauce served with Wholemeal Pasta & Carrots	Chickpea, Pepper & Tomato Pasta Bake served with Carrots	Jacket Potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Chocolate Krispie Cake
Thursday	Ashlyns Beef Burger in a Bun with Seasoned Potato Wedges & Baked Beans	Meat Free Burger in a Bun with Seasoned Potato Wedges & Baked Beans	Jacket Potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	MSC Fish Fingers served with Oven Chips & Garden Peas	Caramelised Onion Quiche served with Oven Chips & Garden Peas	Jacket Potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Ice Cream

Construction area

This week, the pupils in Year 5 had the opportunity to use our construction area. **Next week, it will be the turn of Year 2.** This means that the children in Year 2 who intend to use the space are encouraged to attend school wearing clothes suitable for outdoor, messy play all week.

Permissions and changes to pictures used on social media

Today, the children should have taken home two permission documents. We have sent these out on paper to ensure we are able to get this information to everyone. Please return these documents as soon as possible. After much consideration, I have decided to no longer publish pictures of our children on social media, even if parents have previously provided consent. For this reason, reference to Facebook and X have been removed from the new photo permissions document. The school's Facebook page has been unpublished whilst we work on removing all old pictures. This action is preventative, not as the result of a situation that has occurred. I have become increasingly concerned by the use of AI and the potential risks this could have for a school publishing posts on social media. In the future, we will post events and activities but these will just not include pictures of any children that attend the school. I am aware that some may be disappointed by this action but the safety of our pupils and families is and will remain my highest priority. Pictures of your child will still be published via our Seesaw App.

Seesaw

It is my intention to ensure families have access to their child's Seesaw account by Friday 25th September 2026. Once we have received the majority of the permission documents back, my tech team will begin to set up the new accounts. Once these accounts have been created, we will be able to generate a code needed to access the account.

Class Information Documents

At the beginning of next week, I intend to send out a new document we have created to try and provide our families with helpful information in a clear and simple manner. The information will be linked to their child's time at school such as key dates, class information and upcoming trips. The document will be redistributed at the beginning of each term to ensure any changes are communicated and clear.

Clubs

A letter about clubs will be sent out next week (both as a hard copy and electronic). Clubs will begin week commencing Monday 28th September 2026 and will continue until Friday 11th December 2026. To register your child for one of the clubs, please log onto your Arbor account and follow the instructions. Registration for these clubs will open on **Thursday 17th September 2026 at 7:30pm.** Once registered for a club, you will receive an email to complete a Google Form with collection information. Children will not be able to attend any clubs until we receive this information.

Collection information

To ensure the school can effectively safeguard your child, we require accurate information about who has permission to collect them from school. In addition to this information, we are continuing to offer the chance for parents to provide a password that will be used when collecting their child. I am aware that only a small handful of parents took this option up last year but still feel it is important for families who wish to add this further layer of security have the option to do so. Thank you to those who have already completed the form. If you have yet to fill in the form, please do so using the link below:

Click here to complete the 2026 - 2027 Child Collection Permission Form